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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

DECISION ACCORDING STATUS

UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(a)

In re Application of

Pun et al.
Application No. 09/888,222

Filed: June 22, 2001

Attorney Docket No. P-2177

This is in response to the petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a), filed February 26, 2002 (certificate of mailing dated February 7, 2002). Applicants obtained a four-month extension of time to respond. Accordingly, the petition is filed timely. The petition was recently forwarded to the Office of Petitions for a decision on the merits. The Office sincerely apologizes for any inconvenience to applicants.

The petition is granted.

Petitioner has shown that Wallace Ritchie, the non-signing inventor, has refused to join in the filing of the above-identified application after having been presented with the application papers. Specifically, the statement of facts of James D. Ivey and the letter sent to Mr. Ritchie from Mr. Ivey establish that the inventor was mailed the application papers, including the specification, claims and drawings, but failed to respond to the request that he sign the declaration.

The above-identified application and papers have been reviewed and found in compliance with 37 CFR 1.47(a). This application is hereby accorded Rule 1.47(a) status. As provided in Rule 1.47(c), this Office will forward notice of this application's filing to the non-signing inventor at the address given in the present petition. Notice of the filing of this application will also be published in the Official Gazette.

The matter is being referred to Technology Center Art Unit 2654 for examination in due course.

Telephone inquiries regarding this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3211.

Christina Tartera Donnell
Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



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Wallace Ritchie 2 Lazy Eight Drive Daytona Beach, FL 32124

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of

Pun et al. : LETTER

Application No. 09/888,222 :

Filed: June 22, 2001 :

Attorney Docket No. P-2177 :

Dear Mr. Ritchie:

You are named as a joint inventor in the above-identified United States patent application filed under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 116 (United States Code) and 37 CFR 1.47(a), Rules of Practice in Patent Cases. Should a patent be granted on the application you will be designated therein as a joint inventor.

As a named inventor you are entitled to inspect any paper in the file wrapper of the application, order copies of all or any part thereof (at a prepaid cost per 37 CFR 1.19) or make your position of record in the application. Alternatively, you may arrange to do any of the preceding through a registered patent attorney or agent presenting written authorization from you. If you care to join the application, counsel of record (see below) would presumably assist you. Joining in the application would entail the filing of an appropriate oath or declaration by you pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63.

Requests for information regarding your application should be directed to the File Information Unit at (703) 308-2733. Information regarding how to pay for and order a copy of the application, or a specific paper in the application, should be

directed to Certification Division at (703) 308-9726 or 1-800-972-6382 (outside the Washington D.C. area).

Christina Yartera Donnell

Christina Tartera Donnell Senior Petitions Attorney Office of Petitions

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